

Scott (FL)	Thune	Vance
Scott (SC)	Tillis	Wicker
Sullivan	Tuberville	Young

## NOT VOTING—4

Crapo	Fetterman
Feinstein	Merkley

The VICE PRESIDENT. On this vote, the yeas are 48, the nays are 48.

The Senate being equally divided, the Vice President votes in the affirmative, and the nomination is confirmed.

The nomination was confirmed.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

## CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

## CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 24, Colleen R. Lawless, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of Illinois.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tina Smith, Christopher Murphy, Mazie Hirono, Tammy Baldwin, Margaret Wood Hassan, John W. Hickenlooper, Sheldon Whitehouse, Catherine Cortez Masto, Brian Schatz, Gary C. Peters, Alex Padilla, Michael F. Bennet.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Colleen R. Lawless, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of Illinois, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 53, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 33 Ex.]

## YEAS—53

Baldwin	Cardin	Duckworth
Bennet	Carper	Durbin
Blumenthal	Casey	Gillibrand
Booker	Collins	Graham
Brown	Coons	Grassley
Cantwell	Cortez Masto	Hassan

Heinrich
Hickenlooper
Hirono
Kaine
Kelly
King
Klobuchar
Lujan
Manchin
Markey
Menendez
Murkowski

Murphy
Murray
Ossoff
Padilla
Peters
Reed
Rosen
Sanders
Schatz
Schumer
Shaheen
Sinema

Smith
Stabenow
Tester
Tillis
Van Hollen
Warner
Warnock
Warren
Welch
Whitehouse
Wyden

## NAYS—43

Barrasso
Blackburn
Boozman
Braun
Britt
Budd
Capito
Cassidy
Cornyn
Cotton
Cramer
Cruz
Daines
Ernst
Fischer

Hagerty
Hawley
Hoeben
Hyde-Smith
Johnson
Kennedy
Lankford
Lee
Lummis
Marshall
McConnell
Moran
Mullin
Paul
Ricketts

Risch
Romney
Rounds
Rubio
Schmitt
Scott (FL)
Scott (SC)
Sullivan
Thune
Tuberville
Vance
Wicker
Young

## NOT VOTING—4

Crapo
Feinstein

Fetterman
Merkley

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). On this vote, the yeas are 53, the nays are 43. The motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Colleen R. Lawless, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of Illinois.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

## BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam President, I rise today really to take a moment and evaluate the repeated and unfortunately habitual overreach of the Biden administration.

When our Founding Fathers established our Nation, they were certain to build a government that rejected undivided sovereignty, or the rule of a single person. They had the monarchy, and they didn't like it. This structure features three distinct branches of government: the legislative branch, where we are here, to create and pass laws; an executive branch, responsible for enforcing the laws; and a judicial branch to make certain these laws and actions hold just with our Constitution.

Typically, this is a lesson we all learn in high school, but it seems like President Biden and his administration must have missed that lecture on balance of powers because their actions throughout the last 2 years have shown a lot of disrespect for our Constitution—and disregard.

A recent analysis by the American Action Forum found that in just 2 years, the Biden administration has imposed 517 regulatory actions—517—creating \$318 billion in total costs—a

figure that massively outweighs the regulatory costs generated by the last two Presidential administrations.

Executive overreach has become synonymous with the Biden administration and has created a desperate need for oversight from our Republican colleagues here in the Senate, and certainly that is occurring across the way in the House of Representatives.

We have seen overreach from the Biden administration in areas that impact just about everything, whether it is how we heat our homes or whether we are going to have a gas stove or not, how we fuel our cars, how we educate our children, how we move goods across the country, how we spend private investments, how we enforce law and order, even how we define "water."

Plain and simple, President Biden and unelected bureaucrats in Washington are continuously overstepping their boundaries, creating hurdles and interfering with how we live our everyday lives.

On top of this, congressional Democrats continue to obstruct critical oversight efforts on these harmful policies, and they are blocking opportunities for the American people to hear directly from the administration about policies that impact us directly every day. It is kind of—it is not "kind of"—it is very unfair, and it is a disservice to folks across the Nation who want the leaders to be held accountable.

In the face of such rampant overreach, my Senate Republican colleagues and I continue to push back on President Biden's out-of-touch mandates and bring the voices of the American people to the table.

My colleague from Tennessee, Senator BILL HAGERTY, has introduced a bill that blocks Washington, DC's dangerous and irresponsible rewrite of their Criminal Code that lessens punishment for violent crimes.

My colleague from South Dakota, Senator JOHN THUNE, has introduced a bill to prohibit the President from canceling outstanding Federal student loan obligations due to a national emergency.

Another tool at our behest against this unprecedented expansion of the administrative state is called the Congressional Review Act of disapproval. It sounds kind of bureaucratic, and it is, but it can be very, very meaningful.

As you know, through a Congressional Review Act of Disapproval, or CRA, Congress can vote to overturn rules from the executive branch that are classified as overreach. My colleague from Indiana, Senator MIKE BRAUN, has introduced a CRA that would block a recent Department of Labor rule allowing retirement plan fiduciaries to consider climate change and other ESG—or environment, social, and governance—factors in their investment decisions. I don't know about you, but I think most people who are retired or beginning to retire and looking at their accounts that they are going to be living on, they would rather see the returns come in the most